as grazing grounds and how excellent areas reserved as grazing grounds were being registered away in the names of influential individuals, etc. He next dealt with the third requisite for cultivation of paddy, *viz*, green leaf manure. He said that, as a result of the conversions going on under the Kodayar Irrigation scheme, several garden lands had been made into paddy fields. The area of such conversions was 12,296 acres which, before they were put under paddy, supplied green leaf manure. Thus, the area for growing trees for green leaf had become considerably reduced. Till 1057 the ryots enjoyed the unrestricted use of the green leaf from the forests. Later on, the rules of the Forest Department began to be passed one by one which caused great hardship to the ryots in the matter of green leaf manure. At the eleventh Session of the Assembly, the Member represented the difficulties experienced by the ryots in getting green leaf manure and the result was the issue of the G. O. dated 12th February 1916 which permitted the people to take green leaf from unreserved forests. But the practical disadvantage which the people had to face was that such unreserved forests could not be ascertained. Those were the three causes which directly affected the production of paddy in the State and it was for Government to remove those causes, if paddy cultivation is to be encouraged in the State. The recommendation of the Department of Agriculture was to use nightsoil in the place of green leaf manure. But it was forgotten that the staying power of the ryot had been getting weaker and weaker every year and today the ryot was so poor that he could not afford to buy nightsoil or any other scientific manure. The next food crop was tapioca. On account of the scarcity of paddy the use of tapioca as an article of food was widely on the increase. But the output was not as large as the demand for it. Here again, another difficulty presented itself in the shape of the export of tapioca, and the expansion of the area for tapioca cultivation was the only alternative. In other words, the registry of waste lands on a well-regulated and practical system should be enforced. The Government had passed excellent G. O's. and rules in regard to the registry of *puduvals* and it had been distinctly laid down in the Puduval Rules that "all officers of the Land Revenue Department should bear in mind that the prompt disposal of Puduval applications is one of their main functions and that it is their duty to secure extension of cultivation by encouraging the ryots to take up lands affording them facilities for doing so." But in practice the people were being subjected to innumerable difficulties and inconveniences in getting waste lands registered. The Member then described the irregularities of the Revenue officials and gave instances to show that the Government rules and orders were more honoured in their breach than in their observance. In order that the object of Government in *puduval* registry might be realised and the grievances of the people removed, the Member suggested that Surveyors should first be appointed for each taluk to find out all waste lands and then fix their boundaries. The lands should then be sub-divided into convenient blocks. The trees in each block should then be ascertained and a plan prepared for each block. The Dewan Peishkar should then go to each block and fix the *tharavila*, *thadivila* and assessment. The registry should then be effected. In conclusion, the Member dilated on the malpractices in the disposal of the tank-beds and contended that the rules laid down by Government therefor were not being followed and he drew the attention of Government to it.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

181. Need for returning a separate Member for the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly from the cardamom ryots.

Mr. C. A. Meera Rowther (Member, Nominated) said that most of the cardamom ryots in the Peermade, Periyar, Mlapara and Vandamettu *pakuthies* were residents of Koodallur, Uttamapalayam, Kombay and other places in British India adjoining the Peermade taluk and that those among them, who paid an annual tax of Rs. 50 and above, lost the right of voting in the taluk for the reason that they were not permanent residents of the taluk. The result was that persons from Kanjirapalli and other places, who were ignorant of the difficulties of cardamom cultivation, were elected as Members and the grievances of the cardamom ryots were not properly represented in the Assembly by such Members. The Member, therefore, requested that the

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cardamom ryots might be permitted to elect annually a Member from among themselves to represent them in the Assembly.

The Member then stated that cardamom plants had been affected and destroyed by some plant disease and the produce from the cardamom estates had decreased very much. He requested that the Director of Agriculture be instructed to visit the cardamom estates and give the necessary advice to the ryots to combat the disease.

He also pointed out that the cardamom ryots and the labourers engaged in the estates were suffering from malaria and other diseases, and that there were no hospitals close by for their treatment. He prayed that two Dispensaries might be established, one at Kumili and the other Vandamettu.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

The consideration of the subjects being over, Mr. P. K. Narayana Pillai, B. A. & B. L., Member, T. I. C., Kottayam, addressed the Dewan as follows:—

Sir,

We, the Members of the Sixteenth Session of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly, beg leave to request you to convey to His Highness the Maha Raja, our gracious Sovereign, our respectful feelings of loyalty and devotion to His Highness' Person and Throne.

We are profoundly grateful to His Highness the Maha Raja for the various important administrative measures inaugurated by His Highness' Government during the past year for the welfare of His Highness' subjects and the prosperity of the State. His Highness' long and glorious reign has become unique in the history of Travancore for the manifold blessings which the people enjoy at the hands of Government.

We thank you, Sir, most cordially for the earnest attention and encouraging patience with which you have listened to our representations, and we beg leave to convey to you our heartfelt appreciation of your conciliating kindness and winning courtesy. In the replies which, so far as it has been possible, you have vouchsafed to our representations, you have given abundant proof of your extensive knowledge of the country and its needs, and of your genuine sympathy with our reasonable aspirations.

It is an excellent record of sound administrative work that you have placed before us in your opening address, and it behoves us to state that, notwithstanding the innumerable difficulties created by the after-effects of the war, the increasing requirements of a progressive administration have met with ready and liberal response at your hands. We are proud to feel that, by your steady, solid and fruitful work among us, you have won your rightful place in the forefront of the Indian statesmen of the day.

We pray that Providence, in His infinite mercy, may long spare you in health and strength for the achievement of further distinctions.

Mr. K. I. Kochippan Mappila, Member, Nominated, said:—

കരുണാനിധിയായ പൊന്നുതമ്പുരാൻ തിരുമനസ്സിലേയും തിരുമനസ്സിലെ സിംഹാസനത്തിന്റെയും നേക്കു ഞങ്ങൾക്കുള്ള സഗൗരവമായ പ്രതിപത്തിയേയും ഭക്തിയേയും തിരുമനസ്സറിവിക്കണമെന്നു ശ്രീമൂലംപ്രജാസഭയുടെ പതിനാറാം യോഗത്തിലെ സാമാജികന്മാരായ ഞങ്ങൾ വിനയപൂർവ്വം അവിടത്തോടപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

തിരുമനസ്സിലെ പ്രജകളുടെ ക്ഷേമത്തിനായും രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ ഐശ്വര്യത്തിനായും, ഭരണനിർവ്വഹണം സംബന്ധിച്ചു, തിരുമനസ്സിലെ ഗവണ്മെന്റ് കഴിഞ്ഞവർഷത്തിൽ നിർമ്മിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള സാരമുള്ളതായ നാനാവ്യവസ്ഥകൾക്കുവേണ്ടി ഞങ്ങൾ തിരുമനസ്സിലെ നേക്കു അത്യാദരമായ കൃതജ്ഞതയോടുകൂടിയിരിക്കുന്നു. ഗവണ്മെന്റിൽനിന്നു ജനങ്ങൾക്കു ലഭി

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ച്ചിട്ടുള്ള അസംഖ്യം അനുഗ്രഹങ്ങളാൽ തിരുമനസ്സിലെ ദീർഘവും പ്രശസ്തവുമായ രാജ്യ ഭരണം തിരുവിതാംകൂറിന്റെ ചരിത്രത്തിൽ അദ്വിതീയമായ വിശിഷ്ടതയെ വഹിക്കുന്നു.

ഞങ്ങളുടെ നിവേദനങ്ങളെ ഏകാഗ്രമായ ശ്രദ്ധയോടും പ്രോത്സാഹജനകമായ ക്ഷമയോടും കേട്ടിട്ടുള്ളതിലേക്ക് ഞങ്ങൾ അവിടത്തെ ഹാർദ്ദമായി അഭിനന്ദിക്കുകയും അവിടത്തെ അനുരഞ്ജകമായ സൗജന്യശീലത്തേയും വൃദ്ധയാവജ്രകമായ ദാക്ഷിണ്യത്തേയും കുറിച്ചു ഞങ്ങൾക്കുള്ള നിർവ്യാജമായ അഭിനന്ദനത്തെ വിനയപൂർവം അവിടത്തെ ഗ്രഹിപ്പിച്ചു കൊള്ളുകയും ചെയ്യുന്നു. ശക്യമായുള്ളിടത്തോളം ഞങ്ങളുടെ നിവേദനങ്ങൾക്ക് അവിടുന്ന് നൽകീട്ടുള്ള മറുപടികളിൽ ഈ രാജ്യത്തേയും അതിന്റെ ആവശ്യങ്ങളേയും കുറിച്ചുള്ള വിശാലമായ ജ്ഞാനത്തിന്റെയും ന്യായമായ ഞങ്ങളുടെ ആകാംക്ഷകളിൽ അവിടത്തേക്കുള്ള നിഷ്കളങ്കമായ അനുഭാവത്തിന്റെയും സാക്ഷ്യങ്ങൾ പ്രചുരമായി പ്രത്യക്ഷപ്പെടുന്നു.

അവിടത്തെ ഉപക്രമപ്രസംഗം നിർദ്ദോഷമായ ഭരണകൃത്യത്തിന്റെ വിശിഷ്ടമായ ഒരു ലേഖ്യപ്രമാണവും യുദ്ധത്തിന്റെ ഉത്തരഫലങ്ങളിൽനിന്ന് ജനിച്ച അസംഖ്യം വൈഷമ്യങ്ങൾ ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നിട്ടും ഉൽക്കർഷോന്മുഖമായ ഭരണത്തിന്റെ വർദ്ധമാനങ്ങളായ ആവശ്യങ്ങളെ അവിടന്ന് നിർവ്വിശങ്കമായും ഔദാര്യപൂർവമായും നിർവ്വഹിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള വിവരം ഞങ്ങൾ ഇവിടെ പ്രസ്താവിക്കുന്നതു യുക്തവുംതന്നെ. ഞങ്ങളുടെ രാജ്യത്തിൽ അവിടന്ന് ചെയ്തിട്ടുള്ള അശ്രാന്തവും സാരോത്തരവും സൽഫലപ്രദവും ആയ പ്രവൃത്തികൾമൂലം ഇന്ന് ഇൻഡ്യയിലുള്ള രാജ്യതന്ത്രകുശലന്മാരുടെ പ്രഥമപങ്ക്തിയിൽ അവിടത്തെയ്ക്ക് ന്യായമായ പ്രതിഷ്ഠ ലഭിച്ചിരിക്കുന്നതു ഞങ്ങൾക്കു വളരെ അഭിമാനജനകമായിരിക്കുന്നു. അവിടന്ന് അരാദ്ധഗാത്രനായി ദീർഘകാലം ജീവിച്ചിരുന്ന് ഉപര്യുപരി ഉൽക്കർഷത്തെ പ്രാപിക്കാൻ തക്ക വണ്ണം അപാരകരുണാനിധിയായ സർവ്വശക്തൻ അനുഗ്രഹിക്കുമാറാകട്ടെ എന്നു ഞങ്ങൾ പ്രാർത്ഥിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Mr. S. Kulathuran, B. A. & B. L., Member, Nominated, said :—

അമൈച്ചർ പെരുമ,

இங்காட்டின் சேமலாபங்களே உத்தேசித்து இராஜ்ய பரண விஷயத்தில் மூக்கியமான சீர்திருத்தங்கள் பலதுசெய்து தந்ததற்காக, 16-வது பிரஜாசபை அங்கத்தினர்கிய நாங்கள் எங்களது மனப்பூர்வமான நன்றியறிதலையும், ராஜபக்தியையும் காருண்ய மகாராஜா அவர்களின் திருவுள்ளத்திற்கு அறிவிக்குமாறு, ஐயா, தங்களே வேண்டிக்கொள்ளுகின்றோம். நமது காருண்ய மகாராஜா அவர்கள் மிக நீடித்த காலமாகப் பெரும்புகழோடு அரசுபுரிந்து வருகின்றார்கள். இவர்களால் குடிகள் அடைந்திருக்கும் நன்மைகள் அளவற்றன. இக்காரணத்தால் இவர்களது அரசாட்சி திருவிதாங்கோட்டுச் சரித்திரத்தில் ஒப்புயர்வற்றதாய் விளங்கும் என்பதற்கு யாதொரு சந்தேகமுமில்லை.

மந்திரி சிரேஷ்டா,

நாங்கள் தங்களிடம் விண்ணப்பம்செய்துகொண்டவற்றை யெல்லாம் சிரத்தையோடும் பொறுமையோடும் கேட்டு எங்களுக்கு உத்சாகமும் ஊக்கமும் அளித்ததற்காக எங்களது மனமார்ந்த வந்தனத்தை ஏற்றுக்கொள்ளப் பிரார்த்திக்கின்றோம். தயையோடும் கண்ணியத்தோடும் எங்களை ஆதரிப்பதில் தாங்கள் காட்டியுள்ள திறமை எங்களால் ஒரு பொழுதும் மறக்கக்கூடியதன்று. எங்களுடைய விண்ணப்பங்களுக்கு இயன்றவரை அப்போதைக்கப்போது தாங்கள் விடையளித்துள்ளீர்கள். அவ்விடைகள் திருவிதாங்கோட்டு ராஜ்ய விஷயமாகத் தங்களுக்குள்ள பரந்துபட்ட ஞானத்தையும், எங்களுடைய நன்மைகளே என்றும் விரும்பும் தங்களது அன்பினையும் வெளிப்படக்காட்டுகின்றன.

இவ்வருஷத்து பிரஜாசபை தொடங்கும்போது, அரசாட்சி சம்பந்தமாகத் தாங்கள் செய்துள்ள காரியங்களெல்லாம் விவரமாகத் தங்களால் கூறப்பட்டுள்ளன.

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அவைகள் தங்களுடைய இராஜ்ய நிர்வாக நைபுண்ணியத்தை நன்குவிளக்கிக் காட்டும் அறிகுறிகளாகத் துலங்குகின்றன. ஐரோப்பிய யுத்தம் முடிந்தும் அதனால் ஏற்பட்ட சங்கடங்கள் இன்னும் பூரணமாக நிவிர்த்தியாகவில்லை. இந்த நிலைமையிலுங்கூட இ ராஜ்ய பரணம் மேன்மேலும் சிறந்து விளங்குதற்கு வேண்டும் முயற்சிகளெல்லாம் தங் களால் சிறிதும் தாமஸமின்றி ஏராளமாகச் செய்யப்பட்டுள்ளன. இவ்விஷயத்தை யாண்டும் மறவாது அன்புபூண்டு ஒழுகுதல் எங்களது கடமையாகும். எங்கள் நாட் டிற்கு நிலைபெற்ற பயன் தரக்கூடிய காரியங்களை எங்களிடையிலிருந்து மிக்க மனவுறுதி யுடன் செய்துமுடித்ததன் காரணமாக இந்தியாவில் தற்காலத்திலுள்ள மந்திரி சிரேஷ டர்களுள் முதலணியில் நிற்கும் பெருமையை தாங்கள் அடைந்தீர்கள் என்பதை எண் ணுந்தோறும் எங்களது உள்ளத்தில் புதியதோர் பெருமிதம் நிறைந்து ததும்புகின்றது. தங்களால் நமது நாடு இன்னும் மேன்மேலும் பயன் பெறும் பொருட்டுத் தங்களுக்கு நீண்ட ஆயுளையும் ஆரோக்யத்தையும் தேகவலிமையையும் அளித்துக் கிருபை செய்ய கருணாநிதியாகிய பரம்பொருளை நாங்கள் பிரார்த்தித்துக்கொள்ளுகிறோம்.

Mr. K. M. Mamman Mappila, Member, T. I. C., Thiruvalla, on behalf of himself and 18 other Members, addressed the Dewan as follows:—

Sir,

We, the undersigned Members of the S. M. P. Assembly (16th Session), beg leave to thank you for the uniform patience with which you have listened to our various representations and request you to be so good as to convey our sentiments of loyalty and devotion to the Person and Throne of His Highness the Maha Raja.

We desire also to avail ourselves of this opportunity to advert to a subject which as you are aware is bestirring the minds of the several communities in the State—we refer to the grievances of the Mahomedan, the Christian and non-caste Hindu subjects of His Highness the Maha Raja in the matter of admission to certain branches of the public service. We beg to repeat our conviction that our complaint is legitimate and we pray again that it may be authoritatively declared that no subject of His Highness, otherwise fit, shall be deemed ineligible for any appointment in the State by reason of his race, caste or creed.

DEWAN'S REPLY.

Mr. Narayana Pillai, Mr. Kochippan Mappila, Mr. Kulathuran, and Gentlemen,

I shall with great pleasure lay before His Highness the Maha Raja your respectful feelings of loyalty and devotion to His Highness' Person and Throne. You rightly observe that His Highness' long and glorious reign has become unique in the history of Travancore for the manifold blessings which the people enjoy at the hands of Government. It cannot but be so ; the welfare of His subjects has always been the sole aim of His Highness' life. I have no doubt that His Highness will receive your message of loyalty and devotion with genuine satisfaction.

I acknowledge most sincerely the kind and genuine manner in which you have referred to my work as Head of the Administration. Though the difficulties created by the War have been great, I feel happy that I have been enabled to meet the requirements of a progressive administration. Now that Peace has come, administrative progress is bound to be considerably accelerated and the reforms already introduced and the many problems awaiting solution will receive increasing attention.

It is superfluous to lay stress once again on the help you are rendering to the Government by your representations in the Assembly, which enable them to understand directly your wants and wishes. I assure you that the representations you have made will receive the most careful and anxious consideration of Government and that every effort will be made to meet your wishes as far as possible.

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Mr. Mamman Mappila,

I wish to say one word with reference to the separate address which you kindly presented me. You may remember that, at the time of the Assembly last year, I assured the members of the Christian and some other communities that their representations would receive the most careful and anxious consideration of Government. In accordance with that assurance, the Government are now bestowing their anxious thought on the subject referred to in those representations. I would also repeat what I told the members of the deputation that waited on me last week, *viz.*, that the question of the separation of the management of Devaswom affairs from the administration of the Land Revenue Department is engaging the attention of Government.

The Proceedings of the Sixteenth Session of the Assembly were then brought to a close with ringing cheers to His Majesty the King Emperor, His Highness the Maha Raja and the Dewan, and the Assembly dissolved at 6-40. P. M.

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